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AGRICULTURE PROFILE

OLIVER DISTRICT

Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Agriculture and Food

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BRITISH COLUMBIA AGRICULTURAL REPORTING REGIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This series of agricultural profiles was produced by the Policy Development and Economics Division, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

The report is descriptive, and includes statistical information from a variety of sources. It is designed primarily as an information base for use by Ministry of Agriculture and Food staff in district goal identification and program planning.

The authors acknowledge with gratitude the assistance and co-operation received from individuals and organizations both public and private during the preparation of this report.

This report is one of a series covering the eighteen District Agriculturists' Office Areas of British Columbia.

Abbotsford
Chilliwack
Cloverdale
Courtenay
Cranbrook
Creston
Dawson Creek
Duncan
Fort St. John
Kamloops
Oliver
Prince George
Quesnel
Salmon Arm
Smithers
Vanderhoof
Vernon
Williams Lake

AGRICULTURAL PROFILE - OLIVER DISTRICT

PREFACE

BACKGROUND

The British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food has divided the Province into eighteen agricultural districts, each served by a District Agriculturist. Profiles of these districts were first developed in 1980 under the Canada-British Columbia Agriculture and Rural Development Subsidiary Agreement (A.R.D.S.A).

The availability of new data from the 1981 Census of Agriculture resulted in a need for major revision. The present profile is an updated version reflecting the Census information. At the same time, the profiles have been expanded to include information not previously available, and many of the tables have been restructured to show a more detailed breakdown of different variables by farm sales.

CAVEAT

As the agricultural districts were designed to meet the needs of the farming community, and as their boundaries were developed to ensure efficient use of the District Agriculturist's time, the boundaries do not necessarily coincide with those of the Census Divisions or Subdivisions. However, statistical data from the Census of Agriculture is currently only available for Census Divisions and Subdivisions. An attempt was made, both in the original profiles and in these updates, to choose census divisions and subdivisions which most closely represent the agricultural districts. In this profile all references to the Oliver District are to the area covered by census divisions 7-Okanagan Similkameen subs A and B and 5-Kootenay Boundary sub B.

STRUCTURE

The profiles have been designed to provide a comprehensive source of statistical information on each agricultural district. They have been divided into three sections: an overview of the district, a description of the farms and farmers of the district, and a description of the farm products of the district.

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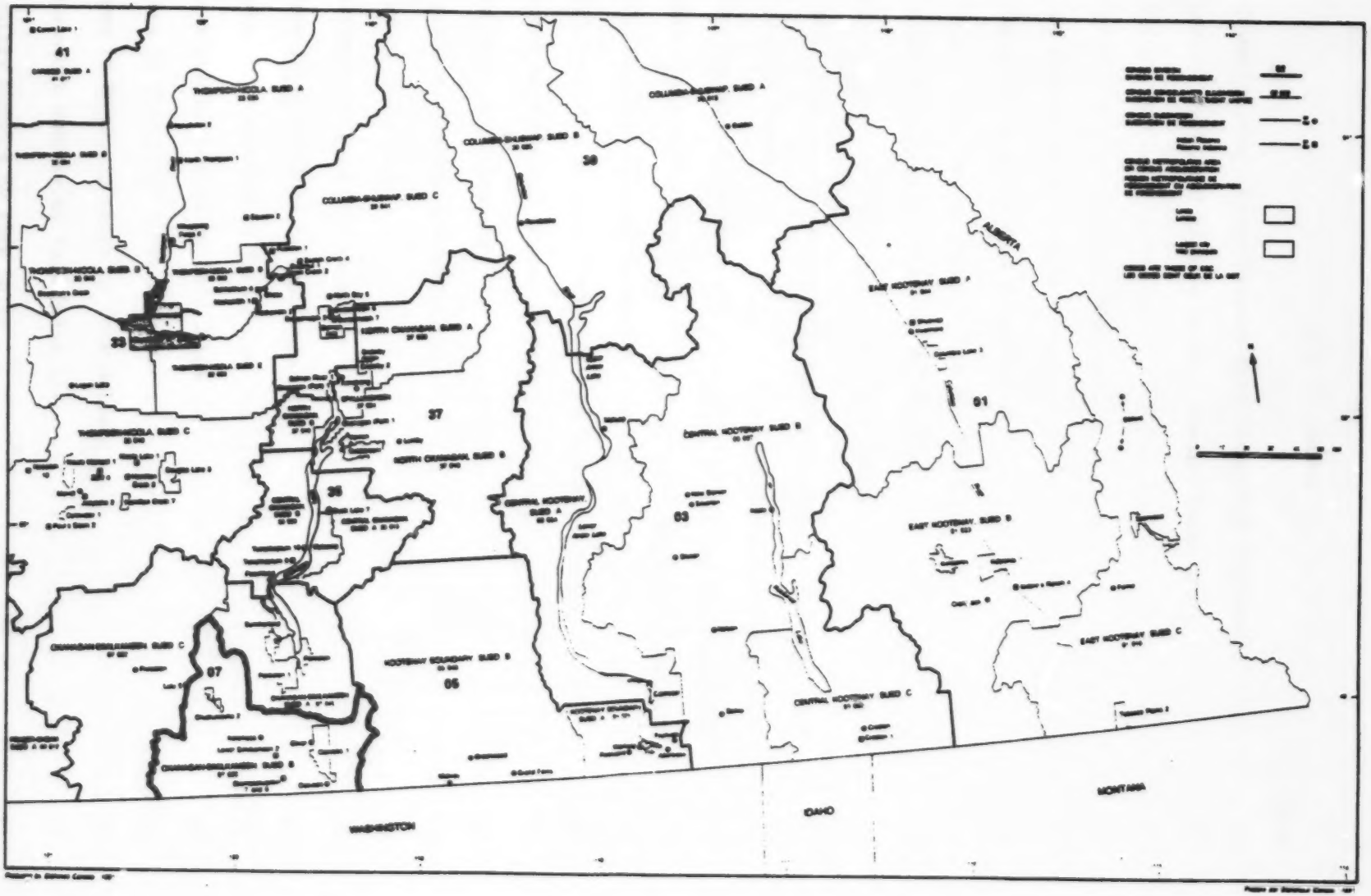
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT



OVERVIEW: OLIVER DISTRICT OFFICE AREA

The Oliver Agricultural District occupies 1.7 million hectares in the Okanagan Kootenay Agricultural Reporting Region, and has typical interior plateau terrain consisting of level to rolling plain.

Census figures indicate a 1981 population of 62,745, an increase of 11.1 percent over 1976 levels. The urban/rural distribution has shifted to a more rural society which now represents 43.9 percent of the total population up from 35 percent in 1976. Total experienced labour force totals 28,240, with the majority employed in the personal services, trade, manufacturing, construction and agriculture sectors.

Agricultural activity in the district is varied, and involves both hobby and commercial operations. In 1981, fruit and vegetable production was the primary activity of 71 percent of farms, beef, assorted field crops and miscellaneous specialty accounted for 13, 5, and 4 percent respectively. Fruit and vegetable production was the primary activity of 67 percent of holdings with sales greater than $50,000 in 1981. Farm cash receipts totalled $64 million in 1981, 7.1 percent of the provincial total. Tree fruit, cattle and small fruits accounted for 39, 13 and 6 percent of receipts respectively.

The Oliver District accounts for 43,141 hectares in agricultural holdings, approximately 2 percent of the provincial total. The total number of farms enumerated in 1981 was 1,998. Farms are smaller than the provincial average in Oliver where 85 percent of holdings are less than 53 hectares. Average farm size is 26 hectares compared to 109 hectares for the province as a whole. In 1981, 33 percent of farmland was classified as improved compared with 43.4 percent for the province.

The agricultural sector in the Oliver District is stable, increased provision for irrigation would allow for increase forage production and grape cultivation in the benchlands area. With respect to marketing, opportunity exists for the expansion of direct local sales of horticultural produce. The expansion of agriculture in the district is hindered by land costs and shortages in some areas. Urban pressures combined with speculation have driven land prices up in recent years, however the industry has expansion capacity in existing farmland, particularly through improved irrigation.

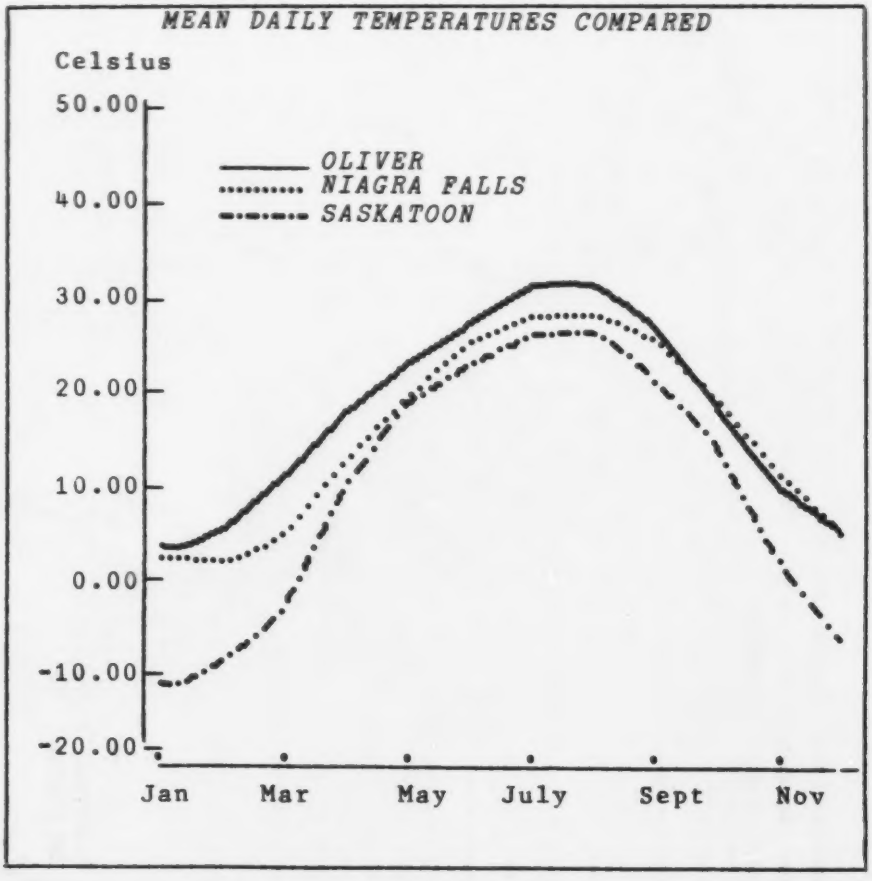
TABLE 1

CLIMATIC DATA

OLIVER/NIAGARA FALLS/SASKATOON COMPARED

	OLIVER	NIAGARA FALLS	SASKATOON
Growing Degree Days	2,135.7	2,472.7	1,619.9
Frost Free Period	148	172	117
Total Precipitation	282.9	942.3	348.8

Source: Canadian Climate Normals 1951-1980
Temperature and Precipitation Normals 1951-1980
Environment Canada



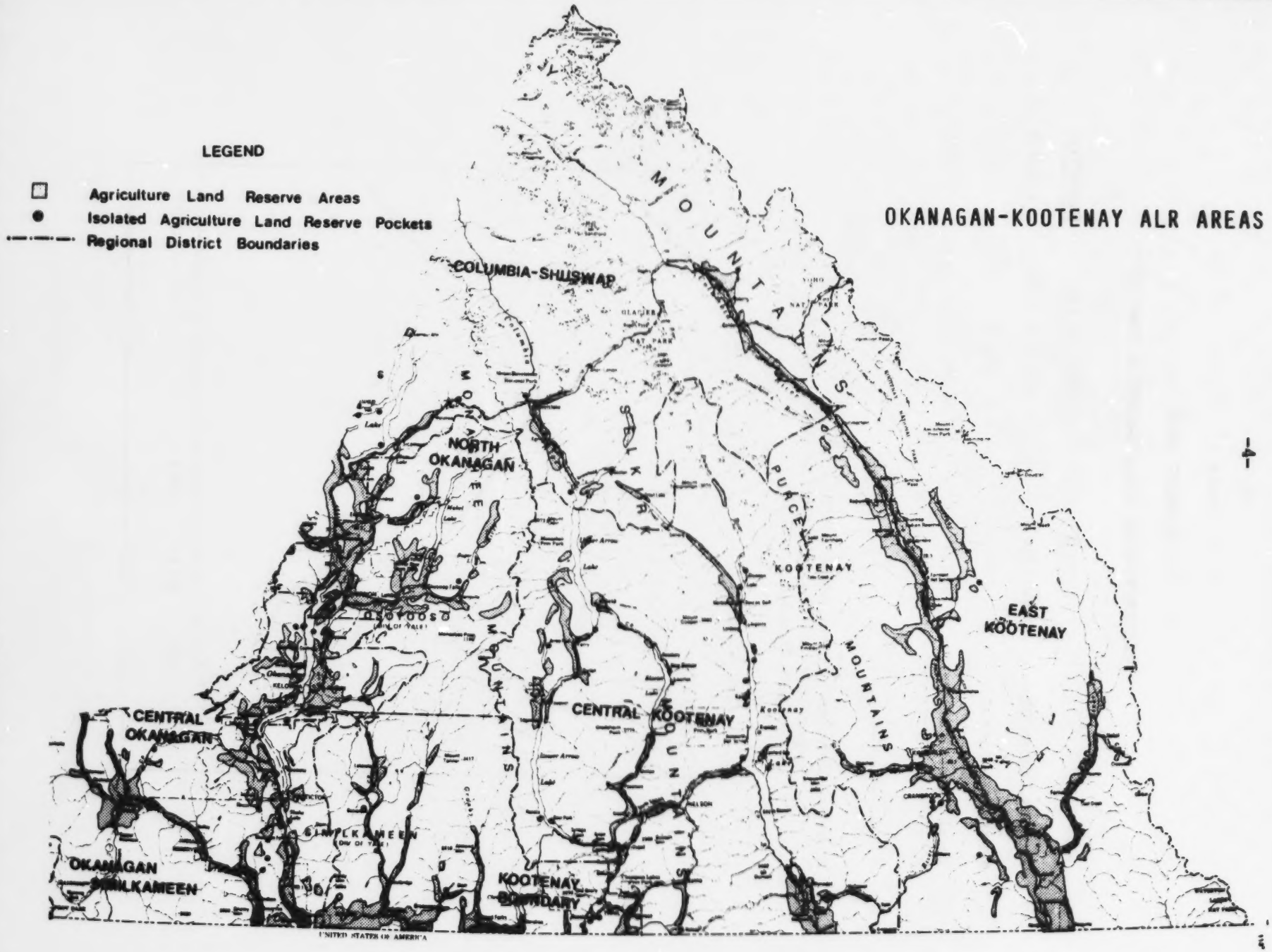

LEGEND
Agriculture Land Reserve Areas
Isolated Agriculture Land Reserve Pockets
Regional District Boundaries
OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY ALR AREAS
COLUMBIA-SHUSWAP
NORTH OKANAGAN
CENTRAL OKANAGAN
OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN
CENTRAL KOOTENAY
KOOTENAY BOUNDARY
EAST KOOTENAY
MOUNTAINS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TABLE 2
OKANAGAN REGION
AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE AREAS IN HECTARES
SUMMARY TABLE: LAND CAPABILITY CLASS BY PRESENT LAND USE

Present Land Use

	1	2	3	4	1-4	5	6	7	Water	Total	%Total
Forages and Grains	2,590	13,410	12,480	8,950	37,430	2,940	1,580	220	0	42,170	25
Horticulture	860	1,940	1,690	130	4,620	30	220	10	0	4,880	3
Grassland and Pasture	380	2,380	5,430	9,250	17,440	4,400	4,360	350	0	26,550	16
Forest	150	5,260	12,770	31,890	50,070	21,240	10,910	6,180	0	88,400	52
Non-Productive Lands	80	520	790	840	2,230	670	830	230	4,380	8,340	5
Total	4,060	23,510	33,160	51,060	111,790	29,280	17,900	6,990	4,380	170,340	
% Total	2	14	19	30	66	17	10	4	3		

Source: B.C. Land Inventory Report, Vol. 1, 2
Talisman Project Inc., 1980.

OKANAGAN LAND CAPABILITY

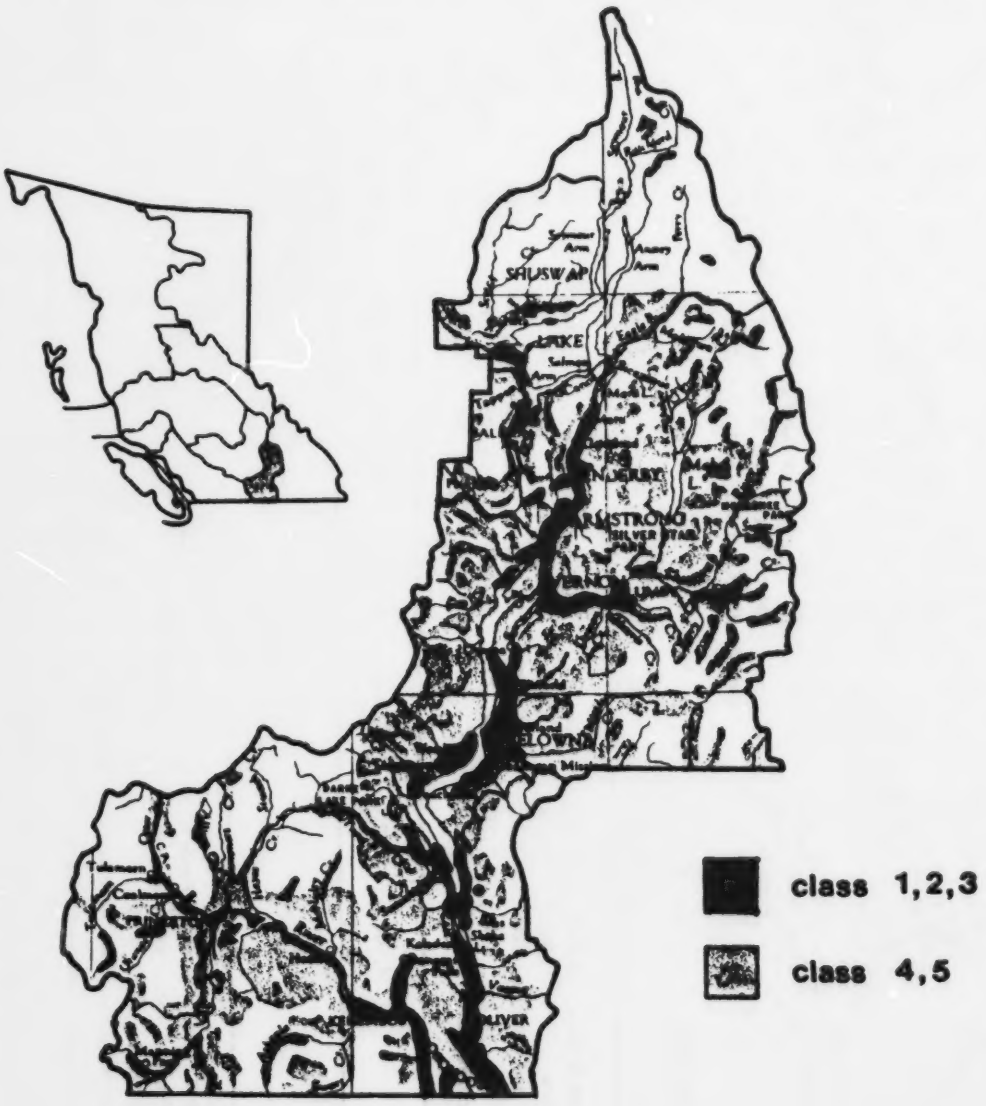


TABLE 3

OKANAGAN REGION

AGRICULTURE LAND CAPABILITY

Class	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Water Surface	Other*	Total
Hectares ('000s):										
Unimproved	3,209	43,176	93,116	189,730	1,005,969	1,585,079	3,628,992	224,602	19,461	6,793,334
Improved**	28,597	115,310	130,439	250,551	817,671	1,581,293	3,625,410	224,602	19,461	6,793,334
Percent:										
Unimproved	0.05	0.64	1.37	2.79	14.80	23.33	53.42	3.31	0.29	100.0
Improved**	0.42	1.69	1.92	3.68	12.04	23.28	53.37	3.31	0.29	100.0

*Other includes unclassified urban areas, national parks and unmapped portions of the district.
**Rating if land unit were irrigated and/or drained.

Source: Agriculture Land Capacity in British Columbia, ARDA Project #89077, 1976.

TABLE 4
OKANAGAN* REGION
AGRICULTURE AND GRAZING LEASE DATA IN HECTARES

Lease Type: Grazing

Year	No. of Leases	Area
1983	15	1,402.97
1982	0	-
1981	10	666.7
1980	12	677.6
1980-1983	37	2,747.27
TOTAL	157	26,971.05

Lease Type: Extensive Agriculture

1983	0	-
1982	2	82.91
1981	4	585.03
1980	6	185.75
1980-1983	12	853.69
TOTAL	24	1,632.03

Lease Type: Intensive Agriculture

1983	0	-
1982	1	2.20
1981	2	10.81
1980	2	20.58
1980-1983	5	33.59
TOTAL	9	60.41

Total lease area: 1980-1983: 3,634.55
Total lease area: 28,663.49

*Note: These figures include the Kamloops and Kelowna Regional Districts as defined by the Ministry of Land, Parks and Housing which encompass most of the Salmon Arm, Vernon and Oliver District Office areas as classified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Source: B.C. Crown Land: Range and Cultivated Land Inventory, B.C.M.A. 1984

TABLE 5

USE OF LAND BY FARM SALES CLASS OLIVER, 1981-IN HECTARES

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
Number of Farms	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
Total Area of Farms	3,239	3,151	3,010	6,409	24,743	52,590	93,141
Total Improved Land Area	1,339	1,113	1,118	2,392	12,026	13,006	30,992
Total Area Under Crop	694	697	685	1,454	8,378	7,916	19,829
Number of Farms Reporting	296	165	211	245	767	232	1,916
Area of Improved Pasture	403	310	325	767	2,971	4,515	9,292
Number of Farms Reporting	70	42	61	61	127	58	419
Area in Summer Fallow	49	29	6.1	35	183	298	600
Number of Farms Reporting	19	14	7	14	23	12	89
Other Improved Land Area	188	77	102	136	494	277	1,273
Number of Farms Reporting	146	87	101	106	262	113	815
Total Unimproved Land Area	1,904	2,041	1,894	4,019	12,725	39,585	62,167
Woodland Area	440	525	517	1,051	2,288	987	5,808
Number of Farms Reporting	23	14	15	19	30	17	118
Other Unimproved Land Area	1,465	1,516	1,376	2,967	10,438	38,597	56,359
Number of Farms Reporting	84	53	81	78	218	105	619

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture
December 1983

TABLE 6

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT:

NUMBER OF FARMS BY FARM SALES CLASS

SALES	$-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10,000+
1971	829	273	351	332
1976	792	256	300	636
1981	504	224	255	1,015

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

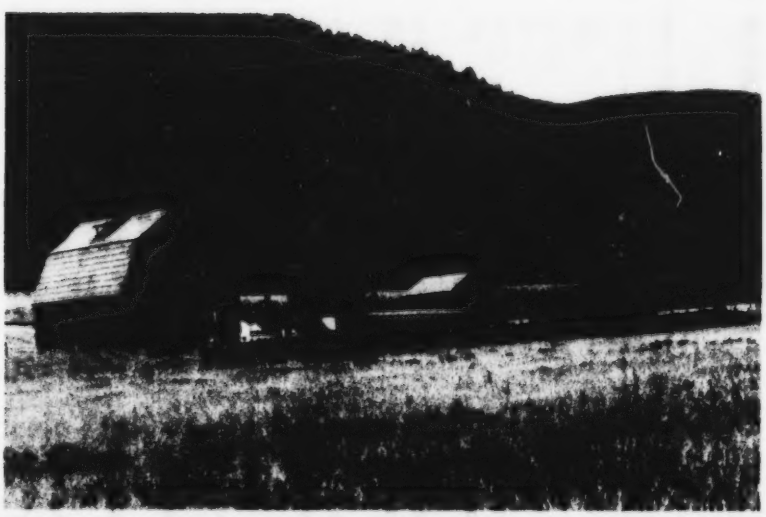


TABLE 7

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY PRODUCT TYPE AND SALES -1981 CENSUS

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
Dairy	3	1	1	6	9	4	24
Cattle	28	20	32	44	81	46	251
Hogs	3	-	-	3	3	1	10
Poultry	31	12	5	2	4	5	59
Wheat	3	1	1	-	1	1	7
Small Grains	2	1	-	-	1	-	4
Other Field Crops	44	16	14	3	14	7	98
Fruits and Vegetables	190	111	144	180	629	160	1,414
Miscellaneous Specialty	14	8	12	10	26	14	84
Livestock Combination	1	3	10	3	2	-	19
Other Combinations	7	5	5	4	5	2	28
TOTAL	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 8

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY SIZE AND SALES-1981 CENSUS

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
1-2 Acres	98	29	24	7	6	-	164
3-9 Acres	112	83	113	124	205	11	648
10-69 Acres	88	45	61	83	258	143	878
70-129 Acres	10	7	7	10	20	15	69
130-179 Acres	5	7	7	1	12	5	37
180-239 Acres	5	1	2	5	5	9	27
240-399 Acres	7	2	7	12	18	11	57
400-559 Acres	1	1	2	6	14	9	33
560-759 Acres	-	1	1	4	13	5	24
760-1119 Acres	-	-	-	3	16	8	27
1120-1599 Acres	-	1	-	-	6	5	12
1600 Acres and Over	-	1	-	-	2	19	22
TOTAL	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

OLIVER: AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE BASE

Farm Taxfiler's Income

The district has a relatively high proportion of high income operations. In 1981, 51 percent of farms had sales in excess of $10,000 compared to 40 percent for B.C. as a whole. Average gross farm income reported was $24,500 in 1981 compared to $39,959 provincially. Almost all taxfilers in the Oliver District reported some off farm income, with 50 percent reporting wages and salaries.

Agricultural Employment

Over 83 percent of reported days off farm work included non agricultural labour, approximately 67 percent of off farm work was reported from holdings with sales less than $10,000. Farm operators hired an average 23 weeks of farm labour, compared with 24 weeks for the province as a whole. In 1981, farms with sales greater than $50,000 provided 61 percent of agricultural employment.

Agricultural Land Development Act

The 1981 census reported 4 more farm units than in 1976 in the Oliver District. Irrigation has accounted for over 73 percent of A.L.D.A. expenditures over the last few years. Approximately 12 percent of funds are allocated to orchards and vineyards and 4 percent for land clearing. Operators report using 5,375 tonnes of fertilizer on 12,500 hectares of agricultural land in 1981.

Farm Capital

The total nominal value of farm capital has increased from $246 million in 1976 to $632 million in 1981. The per farm average rose from $124,000 to $317,000 over the same period. The proportion of investment in land and buildings has risen to 88 percent of agricultural investment, up from 81 percent in 1976. the proportion invested in both machinery and livestock has declined accordingly. In 1981, total farm capital per hectare was $6,788, twice the provincial average.

Age of Operators

The age distribution of farmers remained relatively constant over the period 1976-81 with the largest increase in the 25-34 age group, the total number of farmers did not change appreciably during this period and now represents 10 percent of the provincial total.

TABLE 9

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

FARMS CLASSIFIED BY CAPITAL VALUE AND SALES-1981 CENSUS

Capital Value	Sales $250-2499	$2500-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
Less Than $10,000	2	-	-	-	2
$10,000-24,999	4	4	2	-	10
$25,000-49,999	18	9	5	-	32
$50,000-99,999	128	60	20	1	209
$100,000-199,999	227	187	146	6	566
$200,000-499,999	116	204	511	84	915
$500,000 AND OVER	9	15	91	149	264
TOTAL	504	479	775	240	1,998

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 10

TOTAL FARM CAPITAL BY FARM SALES, 1981: OLIVER DISTRICT

	$250-2499	$2500-9999	$10000-49999	$50000+	TOTAL
NUMBER OF FARMS	504	479	775	240	1,998
TOTAL CAPITAL VALUE	76,782,433	98,157,632	253,555,349	203,756,057	632,251,471
VALUE OF LAND & BUILDINGS	70,661,057	88,391,168	222,636,614	175,413,392	557,102,231
VALUE OF MACHINERY	5,546,446	7,871,231	23,160,784	15,772,978	52,351,439
VALUE OF LIVESTOCK-POULTRY	574,930	1,895,233	7,757,951	12,569,687	22,797,801
AVERAGE CAPITAL VALUE	152,346	204,922	327,168	848,984	316,442
RATIO OF CAPITAL VALUE TO MIDDLE VALUE OF FARM SALES CLASS	111	33	11	11	

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE II

1983 SALES OF FARMS-OKANAGAN KOOTENAY REGION

Area Name	No. Pcls.	Hectares	Sale Price $000s	Value of Improvements	Residual Value	Actual Value	Assessment Sales Ratio	Mkt Value $/Hectare
Penticton	45	660	6,532	$909,600	$5,621,848	$1,075,309	0.191	8,513
Trail	14	1,567	2,179	278,000	1,901,438	1,027,068	0.54	1,213
Kelowna	33	540	6,967	1,040,000	5,926,567	590,580	0.0996	10,972
Vernon	61	1,186	9,974	1,708,500	8,265,750	2,290,223	0.277	6,978
Nelson	7	131	1,065	88,500	976,480	432,240	0.443	7,480
East Kootenay	17	796	2,101	522,800	1,577,945	250,438	0.158	19,942

Source: B.C. Assessment Authority.

TABLE 12

AVERAGE AGE OF FARMERS: OLIVER DISTRICT

	1976	1981	CHANGE
Under 25	23	24	+1
25 - 34	228	337	+109
35 - 44	489	438	-51
45 - 54	522	535	+13
55 - 59	253	229	-24
60- 64	208	181	-27
65 - 69	132	135	+3
70 & Over	129	121	-8
TOTAL	1,984	1,998	+14
TOTAL PERCENT OF B.C.	10.2	10.0	

Note: These figures include the Columbia-Shuswap sub B and C and North Okanagan sub A census divisions.

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 13
OKANAGAN REGION
FARM TAXFILER'S INCOME 1980.

	# of Farm Taxfilers	Average Gross Farm Income $'000s	Total Gross Farm Income $'000s	# Reporting Farm Net Income	Average Net Farm Income $'000s	Total Net Farm Income $'000s	# Reporting Wages & Salaries	Average Wage & Salary $'000s	# Reporting Off Farm Income	Average Off Farm Income $'000s	Total Off Farm Income $'000s	Average Income All Sources $'000s	Total Income All Sources $'000s
Central Okanagan	520	16.1	8,391.2	511	0.79	394.2	280	8.9	506	16.0	8,338.7	16.8	8,732.9
Kelowna	1,200	27.8	33,284.4	1,188	2.90	3,477.6	586	8.6	1,181	18.4	22,087.2	21.3	25,564.8
North Okanagan	795	36.8	29,264.0	778	(0.90)	(712.3)	368	7.6	769	13.5	10,724.6	12.6	10,012.2
Vernon	710	25.7	18,267.6	700	(1.24)	(879.0)	406	10.5	700	18.6	13,230.1	17.4	12,351.2
Columbia Shuswap	660	35.0	23,122.4	644	(0.71)	470.6	361	10.0	642	15.6	10,308.5	16.3	10,779.1
Penticton	460	27.0	12,413.1	456	2.12	976.1	221	7.6	451	15.4	7,066.1	17.5	8,042.2
Okanagan Similk.	1,875	25.3	47,411.3	1,846	2.78	521.3	849	5.6	1,819	10.7	19,970.6	13.4	25,186.9
Trail/ Rossland	35	50.0	1,751.2	35	2.03	71.2	23	14.2	35	26.7	935.3	28.8	1,006.5
Kootenay Boundary	330	20.4	6,738.6	322	(0.79)	(259.4)	180	9.2	317	13.2	4,365.9	12.5	4,106.5
Okanagan	6,585	27.4	180,643.7	6,480	1.33	8,755.2	3,274		6,420	14.7	97,027.0	16.1	105,782.2

Source: Revenue Canada.

TABLE 14

OFF-FARM WORK BY FARM OPERATORS BY TYPE OF WORK & FARM SALES, 1981: OLIVER

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
NUMBER OF FARMS	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
DAYS OF OFF-FARM WORK	37,607	17,364	27,175	26,782	47,205	5,421	161,554
FARMS REPORTING	179	88	136	136	308	40	887
AGRICULTURAL OFF-FARM WORK	4,773	2,211	1,677	3,929	11,668	2,542	26,800
FARMS REPORTING	32	17	17	29	102	18	215
NON-AGRICULTURAL OFF-FARM WORK	32,834	15,153	25,498	22,853	35,537	2,879	134,754
FARMS REPORTING	156	76	128	115	222	22	719

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 15
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
OFF FARM WORK BY FARM OPERATORS BY NUMBER OF DAYS AND FARM SALES-1981 CENSUS

	$250-1,599	$1,600-2,499	$2,500-4,999	$5,000-9,999	$10,000-49,000	$50,000+	Total
1-6 Days	3	-	-	1	8	4	16
7-12	1	1	3	2	14	4	25
13-24	3	2	4	4	15	4	32
25-48	7	1	8	4	30	3	53
49-72	2	5	4	6	33	4	54
73-96	9	1	5	4	16	1	36
97-126	11	10	5	14	23	3	66
127-156	6	7	5	7	14	1	40
157-228	48	26	36	30	61	5	206
229-365	89	35	66	64	94	11	359
Total	179	88	136	136	308	40	887

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 16

HIRED AGRICULTURAL LABOUR BY FARM SALES, 1981: OLIVER

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
NUMBER OF FARMS	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
TOTAL WEEKS OF HIRED LABOUR	331	293	595	2,000	15,158	28,640	47,017
FARMS REPORTING	69	53	88	148	577	225	1,160
WEEKS OF YEAR-ROUND LABOUR	31	51	108	220	2,455	9,852	12,717
FARMS REPORTING	6	6	13	18	61	99	203
WEEKS OF SEASONAL LABOUR	300	242	487	1,780	12,703	18,788	34,300
FARMS REPORTING	64	47	76	132	542	203	1,064

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 17

AGRICULTURE LAND DEVELOPMENT ACT WORK DONE, 1973 - 1981: OLIVER DISTRICT OFFICE AREA

	CLEARED			BROKEN			IRRIGATION	DRAINAGE	ORCHARD AND VINEYARD	OTHER	TOTAL
Fiscal Year	Hectares	Cost/ Hectare $	Cost $'000	Hecatares	Cost/ Hectare $	Cost $'000	Cost $'000	Cost $'000	$000s	Cost $'000	$'000
1973/74	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	1	-	25	67
1974/75	65	243	16	42	38	2	344	2	135	20	519
1975/76	86	372	32	4	25	1	302	0.3	65	16	417
1976/77	24	535	13	24	49	1	234	-	26	6	280
1977/78	15	533	8	4	125	1	289	1	28	24	351
1978/79	35	442	15	21	143	3	516	1	21	21	577
1979/80	34	263	9	24	165	4	568	-	61	28	670
1980/81	53	358	19	44	159	7	9	-	8	27	144
1981/82	34	471	16	32	125	4	-	-	28	28	120

SOURCE: British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food, A.L.D.A. Branch Records

TABLE 18

SPRAYING, DUSTING AND IRRIGATION, 1981: OLIVER

Spraying and Dusting (any)	1,418
Weed Control (Hec.)	4,513
Farms Reporting	642
For Insect Control (Hec.)	6,343
Farms Reporting	546
Irrigation - Total Area (Hec.)	13,771
Farms Reporting	1,854
Sprinkler System - Total Area (Hec.)	12,956
Farms Reporting	1,773

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

TABLE 19

FERTILIZER USE, 1981: OLIVER

Total Area (hectares)	12,500
Tonnes	5,375
No. Reports of Any Use	1,439
Total Cropland (Hec.)	8,276
Tonnes	4,372
Farms Reporting	1,284
Total Tame Hay (Hec.)	3,702
Tonnes	1,066
Farms Reporting	238
Total Improved Pasture (Hec.)	1,544
Tonnes	441
Farms Reporting	168

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, 1981

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Tree Fruit

Tree fruit production was valued at $25 million in 1981, almost one-half of the provincial crop. The district has over 5,000 hectares under tree fruit cultivation, 84 percent of which is concentrated among holdings with sales in excess of $10,000. Apple cultivation accounts for more than 53 percent of tree fruit area, the highest concentration of the 426,000 trees is in the $50,000+ sales class. Peach, cherry and pear cultivation account for 15, 10 and 7 percent respectively of tree fruit area.

Small Fruit/Vegetables

Small fruit production, mainly grapes and strawberries were valued at $3.9 million in 1981. Most of the acreage planted in small fruits is concentrated in higher sales class holdings. Grape cultivation accounts for over 98 percent of small fruit acreage. The most valuable vegetable crop in the district is potatoes, which were valued at $1.1 million in 1981, just over 6 percent of provincial potato receipts. Other field vegetables totalled $1.2 million in 1981 receipts, approximately 4 percent of the B.C. total. Hothouse vegetables and Floriculture/nursery are also of major importance, each being valued at $1.2 and $1.8 million respectively. Greenhouse area has increased by 90 square meters to 33,720 since 1976. Field crops, mostly wheat and oats totalled $171,000 in 1981 farm cash receipts.

Livestock and Related Products

Sales of livestock and products for 1981 were valued at $12 million or 19 percent of total farm cash receipts. Cattle and calves accounted for $8 million of this total or 6.5 percent of provincial beef sales. Total cattle herd size increased by 21 percent to 38,986 head over the period 1976-81. The major limitation to beef production is a shortage of grazing area due to land use conflicts with urban and recreational areas. Hog production has shown significant expansion for several consecutive years, with the hog population more than doubling to 1,800 in 1981.

The 1981 census recorded 57,764 chickens, up 31 percent from 44,000 in 1976. Over 68 percent of this population is concentrated in the $50,000+ sales class. Sheep production is relatively small with only 1,500 head, an increase of 66 percent since 1976.

TABLE 20

ESTIMATE OF FARM CASH RECEIPTS, 1981

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

COMMODITY	FARM CASH RECEIPTS $'000	PERCENTAGE	PERCENTAGE OF B.C. OUTPUT
Wheat	96.15	0.15	1.09
Oats	38.93	0.06	1.34
Barley	35.41	0.06	0.43
Potatoes	1,110.90	1.74	6.05
Small Fruits	3,856.55	6.03	10.11
Field Vegetables	1,244.44	1.95	4.27
Floriculture/Nursery	1,836.66	2.87	3.59
Forest Prod.	66.58	0.10	2.85
Cattle & Calves	7,987.63	12.49	6.51
Income Ins.	1,161.73	1.82	
Hogs	372.04	0.58	0.72
Income Ins.	0.67	0.00	
Sheep	59.01	0.09	2.24
Income Ins.	3.47	0.01	
Poultry & Eggs	784.04	1.23	0.58
Income Ins.	0.29	0.00	
Dairy Products	2,813.19	4.40	1.30
C.D.C Subsidy	112.32	0.18	
Honey	342.44	0.54	6.71
Tree Fruit	25,002.70	39.09	46.32
Income Ins.	10,683.40	16.70	
Hothouse	1,261.55	1.97	4.35
Income Ins.	44.28	0.07	
Other	5,040.34	7.88	7.37
TOTAL	63,954.70		

SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 1983.

TABLE 21

AREA IN FIELD CROPS BY FARM SALES, 1981: OLIVER-IN HECTARES

	$250-1599	$1600-2499	$2500-4999	$5000-9999	$10000-49999	$50000 OR MORE	TOTAL
Number of Farms	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
Flaxseed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farms Reporting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canola	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farms Reporting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tame Hay - Total	399	478	298	751	4,358	4,326	10,610
Farms Reporting	108	61	70	63	136	63	501
Alfalfa and Mixtures	328	386	223	642	2,424	3,697	7,701
Farms Reporting	96	55	58	53	115	57	434
Other Tame Hay	71	92	75	109	1,933	629	2,908
Farms Reporting	22	7	16	16	44	20	125
Oats for Fodder	32	29	28	131	312	159	692
Farms Reporting	7	5	8	10	25	12	67
Other Fodder Crops	27	24	87	32	132	206	486
Farms Reporting	4	2	5	2	12	6	31

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 22

OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

AREA OF VEGETABLES ON FARMS, IN HECTARES- 1981 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

	$250-1,599	$1,600-2,499	$2,500-4,999	$5,000-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTAL
Number of Farms	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
Vegetables	13	8.3	14	17	117	167	336
Farms Reporting	19	14	17	18	56	18	142
Asparagus	1.1	0.41	5.9	3.5	15	50	76
Farms Reporting	4	1	1	1	4	2	13
Beans	0.16	0.16	0.04	-	0.28	0.81	1.42
Farms Reporting	1	2	1	-	3	1	8
Beets	0.49	0.04	-	0.08	0.53	-	1.13
Farms Reporting	2	1	-	1	5	-	9
Broccoli	0.04	0.16	0.04	-	0.08	-	0.32
Farms Reporting	1	2	1	-	2	-	6
Cabbage	0.49	0.28	0.89	0.12	7.5	7.1	16
Farms Reporting	2	3	2	1	8	2	18
Carrots	3.3	0.28	0.57	0.12	2.0	-	6.2
Farms Reporting	2	1	4	1	7	-	15
Cauliflower	0.04	0.16	0.41	0.08	0.61	-	1.3
Farms Reporting	1	2	4	1	3	-	11
Cucumbers	0.04	0.08	0.12	0.93	3.5	2.3	7.0
Farms Reporting	1	2	2	6	17	7	35
Green Peas	0.08	-	0.08	-	1.1	0.61	1.9
Farms Reporting	1	-	2	-	4	1	8
Lettuce	-	-	0.04	-	0.04	-	0.08
Farms Reporting	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Onions (Dry)	0.24	1.3	0.12	0.20	8.4	30	40
Farms Reporting	2	5	2	2	10	6	27
Rutabagas	0.41	0.81	0.24	0.41	2.5	2.2	6.6
Farms Reporting	1	1	2	1	4	2	11
Sweet Corn	3.3	1.9	2.6	3.3	30	28	70
Farms Reporting	9	6	6	7	21	10	59
Tomatoes	1.4	1.3	1.2	6.4	31	37	78
Farms Reporting	8	8	8	11	40	14	89
Other Vegetables	1.8	1.3	1.5	2.1	14	0.85	29
Farms Reporting	5	3	7	5	21	8	49

TABLE 23
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
AREA IN SMALL FRUITS BY FARM SALES IN HECTARES-1981 CENSUS

	$250-1,599	$1,600-2,499	$2,500-4,999	$5,000-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTAL
Number of Farms	326	178	224	255	775	240	1,998
Small Fruits	16	2.8	19	47	61	420	564
Farms Reporting	21	11	16	13	23	15	99
Strawberries	2.5	0.89	1	0.08	3.0	1.2	8.7
Farms Reporting	4	4	3	1	5	1	18
Grapes	12.2	1.2	17	47	57	419	553
Farms Reporting	12	5	11	10	17	14	69
Other Berries	0.97	0.69	0.53	0.24	0.28	-	2.7
Farms Reporting	6	5	4	2	2	-	19

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 24
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
AREA IN TREE FRUITS BY FARM SALES IN HECTARES-1981 CENSUS

	250-1,599	$1,600-2,499	$2,500-4,999	$5,000-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTAL
Number of Farms 1,998	326	178	224	255	775	240	
Tree Fruits	150	121	193	395	2,741	1,733	5,334
Farms Reporting	175	107	143	177	633	169	1,404
Apple	68	57	102	224	553	1,098	3,102
Farms Reporting	107	69	102	146	593	163	1,180
No. of Apple Trees	20,559	28,228	40,080	83,113	700,147	545,641	425,828
Pear	9.4	5.7	15	29	197	121	378
Farms Reporting	40	30	42	64	293	96	565
Number of Pear Trees	2,213	954	3,273	7,361	56,073	37,146	107,020
Plum and Prune	11	13	10	25	143	62	264
Farms Reporting	60	45	52	83	369	95	704
Number of Trees	2,053	2,039	2,320	6,995	42,918	20,727	77,052
Cherry (Sweet)	26	20	26	43	261	148	525
Farms Reporting	108	75	92	120	515	139	1,049
No. of Cherry Trees	3,236	3,054	4,303	8,060	62,868	36,617	118,138
Cherry (Sour)	0.69	0.12	0.69	3.7	17	2	26
Farms Reporting	17	16	10	14	42	9	108
Number of Trees	29	71	94	900	4,448	465	6,007
Peach	27	19	30	53	473	221	823
Farms reporting	74	62	82	105	498	134	955
No. of Peach Trees	7,872	5,934	9,674	18,115	269,948	86,289	397,832
Apricot	7.8	6.1	10	18	96	80	217
Farms reporting	57	43	53	70	300	85	608
No. of Apricot Trees	1,292	630	1,572	3,598	22,050	21,089	50,231

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 25
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
AREA IN SPECIALTY CROPS BY FARM SALES IN HECTARES-1981 CENSUS

	$250-2,499	$2,500-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTA
Number of Farms	504	479	775	240	1,998
Nusery Products	12	3.3	4.5	25	450
Farms Reporting	6	6	7	5	24
Greenhouse Sq. Metres	298	3,605	12,823	16,995	33,720.
Farms Reporting	8	12	18	12	50

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 26
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
LIVESTOCK NUMBERS BY FARM SALES-1981 CENSUS

	$250-2,499	$2,500-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTAL
Number of Farms	504	479	775	240	1,998
Cattle-Total Number	861	3,153	13,622	21,350	38,986
Farms Reporting	100	132	133	67	432
Cows-Total Number	259	1,249	6,027	8,843	16,378
Farms Reporting	70	106	113	55	344
Dairy Cows-Number	75	119	340	623	1,157
Farms Reporting	39	44	28	8	119
Beef Cows-Number	184	1,130	5,687	8,220	15,221
Farms Reporting	41	75	93	51	260
Heifers-Total Number	208	476	1,653	2,538	4,875
Farms Reporting	48	83	100	54	285
Steers-Number	108	246	826	2,257	3,437
Farms Reporting	33	49	64	41	187
Bulls-Number	30	101	368	636	1,135
Farms Reporting	22	59	99	53	233
Calves-Number	256	1,081	4,748	7,076	13,161
Farms Reporting	64	98	115	55	332
Pigs-Total Number	84	320	745	677	1,826
Farms Reporting	21	25	29	8	83
Sheep-Total Number	175	477	508	339	1,499
Farms Reporting	13	19	10	6	48
Horses-Number	396	437	502	488	1,823
Farms Reporting	92	100	95	53	340

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 27
OLIVER AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
POULTRY NUMBERS BY FARM SALES-1981 CENSUS

	250-2,499	$2,500-9,999	$10,000-49,999	$50,000+	TOTAL
Number of Farms	504	479	775	240	1,998
Hens/Chickens Total No.	5,697	7,098	5,620	39,349	57,764
Farms Reporting	145	144	179	43	511
Turkeys-Number	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Farms Reporting	17	16	11	6	50
Geese-Number	79	110	140	52.	381
Farms Reporting	14	15	15	7	51
Ducks-Number	130	188	244	96	658
Farms Reporting	20	28	25	6	79

Source: 1981 Census of Agriculture.

APPENDIX

TERMS USED IN THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Census-farm areas

The area of census-farms reported for each subdivision represents the area of land operated by farmers whose headquarters are in the subdivision.

Crown lands, usually pasture land, which were operated under a lease agreement with federal, provincial or municipal governments, are reported as part of the farming operation of the person to whom the land was leased. However, land which was used under a per head grazing permit or fee is not included.

Large areas of timber land or other non-agricultural land held by the operator, but operated apart from the farm business, are excluded.

Use of Land

All farm land is classified according to use under two major divisions: improved and unimproved land.

Improved Land

1) Crop land - Included in this item is the total area of crop land sown for harvest in the census year. Crop land includes the total area of all field crops, plus the areas of fruits, vegetables, greenhouses, mushroom houses and nursery products. Because some crops are reported in fractions of a hectare, there may be slight differences between the sum of the individual crop areas and the total crop land.

2) Improved pasture - All land which was being used for pasture or grazing and which has had some improvements made to it in recent years is included. Improvements would include cultivation, drainage, irrigation, fertilization, seeding down or spraying.

3) Summer fallow - The enumerator was instructed to include in this item land from which no crop was to be harvested during the census year, but which was to be cultivated or worked during the year for weed control and/or for moisture conservation.

4) Other improved land - This item includes the area of barnyards, home gardens, lanes and roads on farms. It also includes areas of cultivated land that were lying idle, being neither summer-fallowed nor cropped, and areas of new breaking that had not been seeded to a crop.

Unimproved Land

The area of unimproved land consists of the total areas reported for 1) woodland and 2) other unimproved land.

1) Woodland - This includes farm woodlots, land leased for cutting, sugar bush and cut-over land with young growth which has or will have value as timber, fuelwood or Christmas trees. The area of tress planted for wind-breaks was also to be included. It excludes large timber tracts which are run as a separate business from the farm. There is some evidence that changes in the area of this item between censuses may be due to differences in interpretation. This would be particularly true in areas of bushland.

2) Other unimproved land - Areas of native pasture or hay land that had not been cultivated, bush pasture, grazing or waste land, sloughs, marsh and rocky land et cetera, are all included in this item.

TERMS USED IN LAND CAPABILITY RATINGS

Class 1	land is capable of producing the very widest range of vegetables, cereal grains, forages, berry fruits and numerous specialty crops. Soil and climatic conditions are opitimum.
Class 2	land is capable of producing a wide range of regional crops as above with some differences in variety due to minor restrictions of soils and climate.
Class 3	land is capable of producing a fairly wide range of regional crops under good management practices. Soils and/or climate limitations are somewhat restrictive.
Class 4	land is capable of a restricted range of regional crops such as hardy cereal grains, hardy vegetables, and forages. Soil and climate limitations demand special management considerations.
Class 5	land is capable of production of perennial forage crops only. Soil and/or climate restrictions severely limit the land's capability.
Class 6	land is natural rangeland. Soil and/or climate limitations preclude cultivation, but the land may be important in its natural state as grazing land.
Class 7	land has no agricultural capability whatsoever.
UNIMPROVED	These figures are derived from the Canada Land Inventory dry-farm ratings. They do not reflect either present land use or the state of readiness for cultivation, but only the potential capability if used for agriculture.
IMPROVED	These figures are derived from the Canada Land Inventory irrigated ratings. They reflect the capabitity for agriculture if the land unit were irrigated and/or drained. They do not indicate whether the land unit is presently either irrigated or drained.
WATER SURFACES	This category includes all non-seasonal lakes and rivers. It also includes that part of the Strait of Georgia, between Vancouver Island and the Mainland , that falls within latitudes 49 N to 51 N.
OTHER	This category includes all regions of the province that were not mapped due to limited agricultural potential, national parks, and unmapped urban areas.

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